

most unusual occurrence.

she stopped in front of me and began to look anxiously toward the outside door. Then she stepped back into the curtain, but almost immediately returned and hogan to receive the stepped and stepped back into the curtain, but almost immediately returned and hogan to receive the stepped and fell senseless! ately returned, and began to pace up and down more anxiously than before. She was evidently looking for some one whose delay caused unusual alarm. Once I thought she started toward me as if she was going to speak. Il thought I noticed this movement again when I involuntarily approached her.

"Can I be of any service to you, madam?" I asked in a most defer-was fast asleep; and I succeeded in ential tone, which her bearing seemed getting to bed without disturbing her. She paused doubtfully a half sec-

ately; he had failed to do so and she was extremely alarmed on his acat midnight. In fact there was nothtype. She gave the directions to the also quite a large amount of money driver. I had ordered a carriage and that I happened to have had in my could see by the street lamps that it whole affair became. It was a deeply

It was during a Damrosch engagement in Chicago that I happened to go
to the theatre one evening. I was
alone, as my wife had not been going
out since the death of a relative. The
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out sin audience was a music-loving one, and fire in their expanded pupils, like some during the third act as I strolled into Eastern enchantress under whose spell the foyer I found it quite deserted, a I was completely enthralled. I felt vated ear after listening an hour or er before experienced. I could have so, and the strains that came through knelt at her feet. She seemed a creathe heavy, closed doors were more ture to be worshipped, who could in agreeable to mine. I was about to return wield an influence strangely agreeable to mine. I was about to return to my seat, however, when I noticed a remarkably handsome woman
ticed a remarkably handsome woman
men of fascination who have led
men to do awful deeds. She seemed

turn wield an innuence stranger.

in breathless expectation a while longterrible indian earthquake which recent
ly occurred at Dharmsala. Mrs. Clay is
worked a contraction of the contraction of the powerful in breathless expectation a while longterrible indian earthquake which recent
ly occurred at Dharmsala. Mrs. Clay is to recall the pictures in my mind's A heavy portiere at the rear led into she was unusually beautiful, of that eye of such women, as she reclined still another, and from thence the flashing combination of dark eyes and there her eyes flashing darker under voices proceeded. I recognized my golden hair that is so rare. the masses of hair that surrounded wife's in the most excited tone. She was fashionably dressed, and under her opera cloak I saw the glimer of jewels. I expected her to sweep Involuntarily I raised my glass; it was "What you have already told me I

When I awoke to consciousness I found myself at my own front door. From the numb conditions of my limbs latch key; my fingers were all thumbs. At last, however, it was opened. I thanked my lucky star that my wife

Of course I could not go to sleep. The effects of the drugging had passed ond, then graciously explained:

Her father had left her at the theatre, expecting to return immediately immediately off—I knew now I had been drugged, for what damnable purpose I could not conjecture, no more than I could off-I knew now I had been drugged, account for the other mysterious events of this most remarkable evencount, and was also embarrassed at ing I had ever experienced—leaving finding herself alone in a strange city me in a most nervous state. If it had been a case of robbery the mystery ing else for me to do but to offer to would have been cleared up to my see her home. It was all arranged in mind immediately; but the fact that a few seconds, and under the charm a handsome diamond that I wore on of a woman who was of no ordinary my small finger was not missing, and after about an hour's drive we stopped pocket was still there made it more in a part of the city that was not altogether familiar to me, though I ravel it, the more unfathomable the

THE GLASS FELL FROM MY TREMBLING FINGERS;

was a fashionable if somewhat remote neighborhood.

My companion had been too much agitated to engage in conversation during the drive, except to wonder over man in livery opened the door.

"Is my father in?" she asked in a tone in which I noticed some of the come more depressed than ever. agitation had subsided.

I do not know what raised the sus-"Ah! Hortense my dear, forgive me!

his daughter as she answered by explaining my presence. I turned to go, but with lavish expressions of grati-tude usual to a foreigner, he fairly

dragged me into the house. The outside appearance would hardly have suggested the magnificent Rich hangings, rare works of art and gate at least what connection my wife a general luxuriousness implied the could have in the chain of mystery most cultivated taste. While the that was surrounding me. daughter swept into an adjoining room and brought refreshments with her own hand, the father engaged me her own hand, the father engaged me her own band, the father engaged me her own band, the father engaged me her own band, the father engaged me her own with the context of the context of

and another for herself. They were delightful conversationalists. I became unusually talkative myself. The conversation drifted into personal except of the conversation drifted into pe

laid plot of which I was the victim, though for what purpose I could attribute not the slightest motive.

For days I could think of nothing her father's unaccountable delay. it. While I could justify my actions When the carriage stopped she hast- in the affair to my own mind, I was ened to the steps of a stately resi- not quite sure I could do so to hers. dence in the middle of the square. A In fact my wife had been in an extremely nervous condition for a long time, and of late I noticed she had be-

had never spoken except in the pres-ence of the father and daughter the chance to watch the birds from the night of my strange visit and through which source I felt sure she could only gain a possible knowledge of the same partments in which I found myself. I determined at all hazards to investi-

in conversation on the topics of the some purchasing for myself, when I day, upon which he showed more than spied my wife coming out of one of ordinary intelligence.

I refused anything but a glass of wine which she poured from a decanter of rare workmanship—a rich cordial rather—filling one also for her father of the cordial rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father of the cordinal rather—filling one also for her father—filling one her father—filling one he

I told the driver to follow my wife's cab, and at the end of its destination to stop about a square behind. He followed these instructions and after ling put cracked nuts, suet and bird-scale or its Source tuffed timice a long, noisy ride over the rough cobbles, halted abruptly and opened visited it the first morning. In a day the cab door for me to alight. I or two snow-birds and chickadees came

rich hangings, the divan with its crimson drapery, the paintings-all vealed themselves in the glare of broad daylight. I heard the murmur of voices somewhere in the house and paused to catch the direction of the sound. I could not seem to make out.

ing's enchantress, "I am simply about to present my impression of your husband as he appears to me in that astral personality which he is most probably unconscious of possessing." I knew I had been there at least an probably unconscious of possessing."
hour. I fumbled at the door with my There was a deathlike stillness for a few minutes; suddenly broken by my wife's voice in the most agitated tone accompanied with a low sobbing:

"Oh my God! I cannot look! It is my husband and yet so strangely dif-ferent!" I could hold back no longer; I drew aside the curtain and through the folding doors which were opened wide enough for the purpose, passed in. I found myself in total darkness. There were a few seconds of suspense and then—at first indistinctly, then clearer and clearer out of the darkness-a face appeared; finally standing in startling bas-relief against a fiery nimbus that surrounded it. In the wide open staring eyes, the compressed lips and sunken cheeks, ' recognized my own phylognomy! "Sylvia!"

It was my wife's name I had ut-I groped my way in the darkness and found it was my wife. I picked her up in my arms and got out of the room and house I know not how. I have and house I know not how. I have a vague memory of hailing a cab and placing my wife in it and then driving home. All that night she was too ill to move; but the next morning she had recovered enough for me to report at police head-quarters.

This prediction had quick fulfilment. After a short initial engagement in at police head-quarters.

The detective to whom I told my

"You have been in the hands of a couple of notorious adventurers," he explained, "for whose arrest the authorities of some large cities in this country and abroad are on the alert. The woman is a clairvoyant, and pro-fesses to make a specialty of the science of double personality; practicing this humbuggery by the desperate means you describe by which she has gathered a large clientele in this city. The experiment in your case is one of the most daring. The apparition of your face is a reproduction of a photograph taken in your senseless state that evening in their house, for which purpose you were decoyed there and drugged. This by a clever stereopticon effect was used to present the startling revelation of your second personality for your wife's benefit, who happens to be a patron of theirs, and for whom the trick was contrived. They were arrested last night."

FEEDING THE BIRDIES.

Made Friends by Hanging Fat Meat Out for Them in Winter.

Bird Lore, in its notes on winter of methods for such feeding that may be easily employed by any kindly per-son with the greatest satisfaction. At this time of year birds, like domestic fowls, appreciate fat food. Soup bones, after they have served their purpose in the kettle, may be hung in a tree or elsewhere so that cats may not get at the feathered visitors. Here the birds will pick away every bit of meat else. I said nothing to my wife about and gristle. Suet may be put in the it. While I could justify my actions in the affair to my own mind, I was fowl, and blue jays, nuthatches, wood
It is believed that there is some danfowl, and blue jays, nuthatches, woodpeckers and chicadees, not to mention the English sparrows, will visit this luncheon with delight.

A correspondent writing from Jackpicion in my mind, but I took a sudden fancy that my wife's late depression was in some way connected and you? How did you get home?"

This voice came from within and was followed by an elderly man of foreign appearance who came forward and extended his hand affectionately to his daughter as she appearance because it is a large that my wife's late depression was in some way connected with my mysterious adventure. A question she asked me completely confirmed this suspicion and filled me around our home, and fine trees, but there are streets on all but the porth up in small trees near the windows and very soon my guests began to of each coupon is ten cents and these arrive. bringing the suet eaters within closer range. I fastened a rough stick, two or three inches in diameter, to the window shutters, across the window a little below the middle sash and upon this stick I tied my lump of suet.

"From that time we have had the pleasure all winter long of watching periences. I related one I had never repeated to mortal ears before.

I do not know whether it was the wine or the adorable smile of the following her more as a protector, birds patronizing the suet. Almost all

and at the same time determined to the winter birds are fond of both nuts investigate the diabolical agencies at and suet. No one need ever waste old work to destroy the happiness of my or rancid nuts. The birds will be glad to get them.

Another Illinois correspondent says: Several tufted titmice paid him and dismissed the cab, and as in flocks. White-breasted nuthatches, I saw my wife's dress disappear in a doorway down about the middle of crowned sparrow and a red bellied the next square, made for that di- woodpecker were constant visitors all

Won Royal Red Cross.

The coveted Royal Red Cross of England has been conferred upon Mrs. Violet Clay, as an expression of merit for her services during and after the



MRS. VIOLET CLAY.

the youngest daughter of Sir Henry Nightingale and the wife of Major C. H. Clay of the 7th Gurkha Ritles, who was seriously injured, during the earthquake while saving the life of his little son.

The Adorable Patti.

The famous Adelina Patti, always oung, despite her years, first appeared in 1859, at the New York Academy of Music. She was brought forward under the direction of her kinsman and mastered before I was conscious what I ter, Maurice Strakosch, in the title role of those rare singers who appear at long intervals on the musical horizon to revive not only the hopes of man-agers, but the enthusiasm of the public. Philadelphia, Mile. Patti, piloted by Strakosch, embarked on a concert tour which ended at New Orleans, whence she sailed for London where she may be said to have fairly begun a career, which, like her art, must remain long unique in tyric annals. Thereafter for unward of 40 years, she held first place, and during the greater part of that time, she was not only a sweeter, but a better singer than any other woman in the world. in the world. Her name lends a gold en ending to any record of the early days of opera in America.

Adulterated Dresses.

Public attention is being directed to the wholesale manner in which the materials that keep us warm during the day, and the blaffkets which cover us at night, are adulterated.

The silk dress of the lady of a hun dred years ago rustled as she moved, on account of the genuineness of the fabric; now it rustles with 36 per cent of salts of tin used to commercialize it. The lady of the period in her silk dress is, indeed, a sort of "woman in armor."

Epsom salts, instead of being used

or medicinal purposes, as formerly, are now employed, it would appear, for loading flannel. The so-called table linen of today is not pure linen, such eeding of wild birds gives a number as delighted the hearts of the housewives of olden times but is made largely of cotton, filled with china clay and starch. So, too, collars are often of cotton merely faced with linen. In a word, nearly every kind of fabric sold, is adulterated in some form of other, and the public, in blissful ignor ance of the truth, finding how poorly the things wear, lays the blame upon the laundryman, the dver or

ger of the skin being attacked by disease as a result of the really poison-ous substances which are set free by the action of perspiration upon the me tallic compounds contained in apparently innocent wearing apparel.

A Gut With Each Ticket.

George Adams, the manager of the Crystal Theatre of Denver, is operating his play-house upon unique lines. For some time he has given away souvenirs It was a question relating to an experience of my past life, of which I table, as it is the most sheltered and considerable value. He has now stocked a large store with about everything that is needed in housekeeping, and is house. I began by tying lumps of suet issuing a trading stamp or coupon with every ticket to the theater. The value Later I devised a plan for trading coupons can be exchanged at the store for articles ranging from ten cents to twenty-five dollars.

Mr. Adams has just imported a load of dishes from Germany, and he states that he has, during the winter, already given away, to Crystal Theater goers, more than three car loads of

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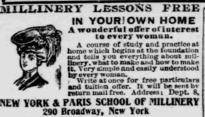
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